



U.S. Department
of Transportation
**National Highway
Traffic Safety
Administration**

1200 New Jersey Avenue SE
Washington, DC 20590

September 21, 2011

MS. VALERIE FORTIN
REGULATIONS AND STANDARDS TECHNICIAN
CORP. MICRO BIRD, INC.
3000, RUE GIRARDIN
DRUMMONDVILLE, QUÉBEC J2E 0A1

NVS-215kjs
11V-475

SUBJECT: SEAT CUSHION/FMVSS 222

DEAR MS. FORTIN:

This letter serves to acknowledge Corp. Micro Bird, Inc.'s (Micro Bird) notification to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) of a noncompliance with Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) Number 222, "School Bus Passenger Seating and Crash Protection," for which a safety recall campaign will be conducted pursuant to Federal law for the vehicles listed below.

Please review the following information to ensure that it conforms to your records as this information is being made available to the public. If the information does not agree with your records, please contact us immediately to discuss your concerns.

Makes/Models/Model Years:

MICRO BIRD/G5/2010-2011
MICRO BIRD/MB II/2010-2011

NHTSA Campaign Number: 11V-475 **Mfg's Report Date:** September 19, 2011

Components: SEATS

Potential Number of Units Affected: TO BE DETERMINED

Summary:

MICRO BIRD IS RECALLING CERTAIN 2010 AND 2011 MICRO BIRD G5 AND MICRO BIRD MBII SCHOOL BUSES MANUFACTURED FROM APRIL 14, 2010, THROUGH JUNE 7, 2011, EQUIPPED WITH A C. E. WHITE SEAT CUSHION. THE SEAT CUSHION SELF-LATCHING MECHANISM DOES NOT ACTIVATE WHEN A 48.4 POUND MASS IS PLACED ON THE CENTER OF THE SEAT CUSHION AND ACCORDINGLY, THESE SEATS FAIL TO CONFORM TO THE

REQUIREMENTS OF FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARD NUMBER 222, "SCHOOL BUS PASSENGER SEATING AND CRASH PROTECTION."

Consequence:

IF THE SEAT CUSHION IS NOT FULLY LATCHED TO THE SEAT STRUCTURE, IT COULD FLIP UP OUT OF POSITION IN THE EVENT OF A CRASH. THIS COULD INCREASE THE RISK OF INJURY TO THE VEHICLE OCCUPANTS.

Remedy:

MICRO BIRD WILL NOTIFY OWNERS AND WILL REPAIR THE SEATS FREE OF CHARGE. THE MANUFACTURER HAS NOT YET PROVIDED THE AGENCY WITH A NOTIFICATION SCHEDULE. OWNERS MAY CONTACT MICRO BIRD AT 1-819-477-2012.

Notes:

MICRO BIRD'S RECALL CAMPAIGN NUMBER IS 11-047-SEU. CUSTOMERS MAY CONTACT THE NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION'S VEHICLE SAFETY HOTLINE AT 1-888-327-4236 (TTY: 1-800-424-9153); OR GO TO [HTTP://WWW.SAFERCAR.GOV](http://www.safercar.gov).

Under 49 U.S.C. § 30112(a), it is illegal for anyone, including a manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or retailer to sell an item of equipment or vehicle that fails to comply with all applicable Federal motor vehicle safety standards.

Please be reminded of the following requirements:

You are required to submit a draft owner notification letter to this office no less than five days prior to mailing it to the customers. This notification letter needs to be distributed to owners within 60 days of today's date. Also, copies of all notices, bulletins, dealer notifications, and other communications that relate to this recall, including a copy of the final owner notification letter and any subsequent owner follow-up notification letter(s), are required to be submitted to this office no later than 5 days after they are originally sent (if they are sent to more than one manufacturer, distributor, dealer, or purchaser/owner).

As stated in Part 573.7, submission of the first of six consecutive quarterly status reports is required within 30 days after the close of the calendar quarter in which the campaign was initiated. Thereafter, quarterly reports will be due on or before 30 days after close of the calendar quarter.

Your contact for this recall will be Kelly Schuler, who may be reached by phone at 1-202-366-5227, by email at Kelly.Schuler@dot.gov, or through the office email at RMD.ODI@dot.gov. We look forward to working with you for the successful completion of this recall campaign.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ric Willard" with "for" written below it.

Ric Willard
Acting Chief, Recall Management Division
Office of Defects Investigation
Enforcement